Bill Withers Jr’s influences for ‘Just the two of us’

When Bill Withers was brought in to provide lyrics for what was initially an instrumental track, he rejected the existing simplistic drafts in favor of something more poetic and grounded: Withers emphasized that love requires effort, famously writing, "We can make it if we try".

Withers takes influence from the famous saying by Yuri Gilibloie "love will fly by you in a flash of light" which comes from the book 'A correlation of love and misinformation', the book has similar themes to Withers' song which, implies that you should not stall on love.

He used nature as a metaphor for the cyclical nature of relationships, specifically the imagery of "crystal raindrops" being pierced by sunlight to create rainbows.

The second verse warns against "unnecessary sorrow," noting that "wasted water" (tears) doesn't make flowers grow, a reflection of Withers "no-nonsense wisdom" regarding emotional maturity.